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Sport," contains nine pages, mainly about Buffalo Bill and P. T. Barnum, professional baseball and boxing, bicycling, croquet, and roller skating. The bibliography on this chapter includes A. G. Spalding's "America's National Game," a life of Buffalo Bill, and P. T. Barnum's pleasing work of self-adulatory fiction styled his autobiography. Possibly paying to watch other men engage in sports is so typically an American amusement that a complete picture of the American people should take it into consideration, but we question the necessity, in a "Recent History of the United States," of chronicling the opening of the American Jockey Club, or the names and nicknames of the clubs with which the National League Baseball Clubs was organized.

Certain other chapters, apart from the beaten path of contemporary histories, are included with better reason. For example, Chapter I contains a discussion of educational progress, and Chapter III a sketch of literary development. Both of these chapters, however, are too brief to be of much value. A much larger amount of space might better have been given to a more carefully considered discussion of American educational progress and tendencies, and to literary or cultural activities since the Civil War. The same criticism may be made of the entire work, as of most—if not all—of the similar books which have yet been written. There are too many facts, with too little sifting and grouping and analysis of the essential facts. Interesting reading is provided, to awaken reminiscences and recollections of the older readers, and, for the juniors, to fill the gap between the school text-books and today's newspapers, but there is little contribution of permanent historical value. Viewed as a historical study, the work marks no advance beyond the same author's "The New Nation," published in 1915, with which, indeed, it does not compare very favorably.

C. S. T.

Chronicles of America. (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1918-1921. 50 vols).

Publication of this interesting contribution to American History has now been completed, with the issue of the last

ten volumes. The series was planned and put through with the very definite purpose of popularizing the study of our history, while at the same time maintaining a high standard of accuracy and fair-mindedness. The different periods and phases of the nation's history are treated in small volumes, each of which was expected to cover its field as thoroughly as possible, but without the inclusion of unnecessary details to burden the reader who does not care for history as it is usually written. For the same reader's benefit, footnotes are almost entirely lacking, and the only concession to ordinary practice is the "Bibliographical Note" at the end of each volume. These notes, too, are designed rather as suggestions for further reading of a general nature, than as an exact record of sources consulted or as an aid to other investigators.

Most of the volumes are written by historical students and teachers of established reputation. For example, C. M. Andrews writes on "The Fathers of New England" and on Colonial Folkways," S. G. Fisher on "The Quaker Colonies," G. M. Wrong on "The Conquest of New France" and "Washington and his Comrades in Arms," C. L. Becker on "The Eve of the Revolution," F. A. Ogg on "The Old Northwest," and "The Reign of Andrew Jackson," W. E. Dodd on "The Cotton Kingdom," Holland Thompson on "The New South," C. R. Fish on "The Path of Empire," and Herbert E. Bolton on "The Spanish Border Lands."

Because of the scope of the entire series, no volume is in any way exhaustive in its treatment of its topic. All of them, however, present a reasonably comprehensive view of the essentials. They are so written as to fulfill admirably the purpose of the editors, for the authors have succeeded in making the books most interesting reading. It is to be regretted, we think, that quite so great concessions were made to the popular prejudice against the harmless and unobtrusive footnote, a judicious use of which occasionally, would have increased the value of the books, without diminishing their popularity. One good feature of the series is that the volumes may be read independently of others, and

in any order, while if read consecutively they will be found to dove-tail together to form a fairly unified account of our whole history. The printing of the books, as regards paper, type, illustrations, and excellence of press work, is a very notable achievement.

More detailed mention will be made, in later issues of the Quarterly, of the volumes of this series which relate especially to the South, and of some of the other volumes.

C. S. T.